Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2008 4:07 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV); Lloyd; Denby S (DFG)
Subject: Re: Commissioner Lloyd request - Sat., 02.08.08

I did get his email, haven't got to answer back nor rearrange other things to try to get to Fish mtg... I don't I can get there. And no need for assistance at AOC banquet, but appreciate the offer. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Date: Sat, 09 Feb 2008 15:24:13

To:gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Subject: Commissioner Lloyd request - Sat., 02.08.08

Governor - Good thing you and girls got out last night. The wind and snow are terrible today.

Commissioner Lloyd had emailed a request earlier today to see if you would like to do a stop by at the Board of Fish meeting next door to the Millennium - apparently they are there until approx. 5:00 p.m. The Commissioner also asked if you would like any assistance at the banquet tonight.

You may not even be in ANC until after 5:00 p.m. tonight but I told him I would check. Thanks, Janice

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2008 3:24 PM
To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Subject: Commissioner Lloyd request - Sat., 02.08.08

Governor - Good thing you and girls got out last night. The wind and snow are terrible today.

Commissioner Lloyd had emailed a request earlier today to see if you would like to do a stop by at the Board of Fish meeting next door to the Millennium - apparently they are there until approx. 5:00 p.m. The Commissioner also asked if you would like any assistance at the banquet tonight.

You may not even be in ANC until after 5:00 p.m. tonight but I told him I would check.
Thanks, Janice

Unknown

From: Rehfeld, Karen J (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KJREHFELD]

Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2008 12:16 PM

To: 'Shelley Hughes'; Palin; Sarah H (GOV)

Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); 20080515kkjackson_A; Butler; Jay (HSS-CDC); Carr; Patricia A (HSS); Millard; Mark A (HSS); Kim; Anna C (GOV)

Subject: RE: Follow-up: CHC Request for Amended Budget

Dear Shelley -- It was a pleasure to meet with you and discuss your request to include $13 million in the governor's amended budget for community health centers. The Department of Health & Social Services is looking very seriously at the proposal to evaluate the impact on long range health care planning and cost management. Clearly, this review won't be completed in time for the governor's budget amendments that are due to the legislature on February 13. I know that legislators and others are also looking at this request. Thank you for your efforts to improve access to primary care in Alaska! Karen

****

Karen J. Rehfeld, Director
Office of Management & Budget
465-3568

karen.rehfeld@alaska.gov

From: Shelley Hughes [mailto:ShelleyH@alaskapca.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 5:32 PM
To: Palin, Sarah H (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Rehfeld, Karen J (GOV); Kelly, Russell T (GOV); Jackson, Karleen K (HSS); Butler, Jay (HSS-CDC); Carr, Patricia A (HSS); Millard, Mark A (HSS)
Subject: Follow-up: CHC Request for Amended Budget

Letter is pasted below and attached for your convenience. In the event that the email process distorts the formatting, please refer to the attached.
Thank you,
Shelley Hughes

[x] Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.
AKPCA Long Logo

Honorable Sarah Palin
Third Floor, State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

February 6, 2008

Re: Important Item for Your Amended Budget: CHCs

Dear Governor Palin,

Thank you for your help arranging my meeting with Karen Rehfeld as well as for the privilege of meeting with your Legislator Director, Russ Kelly. I discussed with these key advisors of yours the critical role Community Health Centers (CHCs) are filling throughout Alaska and their need for support. Because I know you are not interested in the "same-old, same-old" when results don't measure up, and I know you're open to innovative approaches that are based on sound principles, I am asking you to be a champion on health care issues – even beyond what you've already been through your current bills in the legislature – by championing CHCs as part of a real, here and now, cost-effective, quality solution to the rising cost of health care and the need for access for Alaskans.

This is a statewide issue, with 124 CHC sites sprinkled across the entire state. It is an issue that needs to be championed by our leader of Alaska, you, Governor Palin. I'll give you the bottom line now instead of waiting until the conclusion of this letter: can we count on you to insert a first-time $13 million CHC funding in your amended budget? Yes, the $13 million request is no small number, but please keep in mind two things: 1) with 80,000 patients and 124 CHC sites throughout the state, the ratio is $105,000/site and 2) CHCs save substantial Medicaid dollars.

As a fan of marketplace solutions like you are, let me point out that CHCs provide primary care access for areas and populations *where no competitive marketplace exist*. I have been in conversations with the Heritage Foundation regarding this issue the last couple of months; Ed Haislmeier assured me that it is indeed the government's role to assist in a scenario such as ours.

As I discussed with Karen and Russ, CHCs are in a precarious place, with declining revenues, a growing patientload of uninsured and low income Alaskans accompanied by rising operational costs, and an extremely severe workforce shortage. We're one of a handful of states that have been making these open-door, fee-scale clinics available to Alaskans without any direct state funding. But providing primary care (basic medical, dental and behavioral health) to now over 80,000 Alaskans, we are at a juncture where we need state support.

As you know, the Alaska Health Care Strategies Planning Council, in their report, clearly recommended state investment and support to strengthen and expand CHCs. The Council recognized the valuable and cost-effective quality care and access CHCs provide. The fact that Medicaid patients who use CHCs as their medical homes save Medicaid 33% is an important consideration in light of the growing Medicaid budget.

The Federal OMB realizes CHCs' cost-effective quality and value and has given CHCs the highest ranking possible in their scoring system. CHCs are proven providers and have a history of accountability and performance. CHCs stretch the dollar and operate with a high level of excellence. Health outcomes improve in communities with CHCs.

Please remember too, that CHCs are one of the sole providers left in the state that are accepting new Medicare patients. CHCs are an essential resource to our seniors; these clinics are also working to provide access to veterans in outlying areas.

Our request is summarized in the hardcopy brochures I left with Karen and Russ last week. Electronic versions of both the brochure and the full version of the request (103 pages) with data and details are available for download here: http://www.alaskapca.org/CHCStateFundingPublication.aspx?id=1294 . The request is divided between 4 critical categories of need: workforce recruitment and retention, a one-time capital request for HIT infrastructure, marketing (to get the word out to seniors, those on Medicaid, etc.), and energy assistance.

I've also attached a document, *What Alaska Can Expect in Return for Investing in CHCs*, which will provide you with some good numerical insight into the benefit of state investment in CHCs as well as the relevant APCA

Board Resolution. I'd be happy to address any questions you may have.

And now the bottom line again: will you step out and champion the CHCs in Alaska as part of your plan to address cost, quality access issues in Alaska? Will you add the $13 million to your amended budget to help turn the tide? The expansion and strengthening of primary care lowers overall health care spending and creates healthier communities. You can't go wrong.

Thank you for your steadfast service to Alaskans and your dedication to finding solutions to the important health care issues we face today.

Joining with you to pursue quality, cost-effective primary care access for all Alaskans,

Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your

Shelley S. Hughes
Government Affairs Director
Alaska Primary Care Association

Cc: Karen Rehfeld, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Russ Kelly, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor
Mike Tibbles, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Karleen Jackson, Commissioner, DHSS
Jay Butler, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, DHSS
Pat Carr, Health Program Manager IV, Health Planning and Systems Development, DHSS
Mark Millard, Health Program Manager III, Primary Care Office, DHSS

Shelley S. Hughes
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"Uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans"

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www.alaskapca.org
Browse APCA's helpful online advocacy information and resources.

Unknown

From: Ivy Frye [Ivy_Frye@gov.state.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, February 09, 2007 2:29 PM
To: govpalin@gov.state.ak.us; 'Michael Tibbles'
Cc: Sharon Leighow; Meghan N Stapleton
Subject: Legislative Confirmation Press Release

Governor Palin and Mike,

Do you want to do one general press release with all of the appointments requiring legislative confirmation or separate press releases for some of the more high profile boards such as Judicial Council?

I can start passing on any information for some of the confirmed appointments to the press office if press release (s) are going out.

Thanks,

Ivy Frye
Director, Boards and Commissions
Office of Governor Sarah Palin
ivy_frye@gov.state.ak.us
(907) 465-3500 office
(907) 465-8110 fax